

REMARKS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Official Action dated 5 April 2006.

In the Official Action, the Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e), as being anticipated by Tobishima et al (US. 2003/0193871 A1). Additionally, the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b), as being anticipated by Kobayashi (US. 5,953,302). Responsive to the rejections made in the Official Action, claims 1 and 2 have been cancelled by this Amendment.

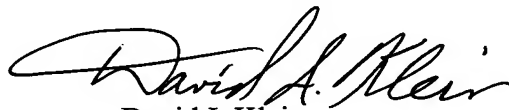
The Examiner indicates that claims 3 – 16 are object to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Response to this, claims 3 and 6 have been amended respectively in independent forms to include all of the limitations of the cancelled claims 1 and 2. Additionally, claims 4 - 5 and 7 - 16 remain in this application.

It is believed that the amended claims 3 and 6 are in a condition to overcome the Examiner's objections, and the original claims 4 – 5 and 7 - 16 as being respectively dependent upon the amended base claims 3 and 6 are also in a condition to overcome the Examiner's objections.

For all the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

This Amendment was prepared by Applicant, and is being submitted without substantive change by the undersigned Attorney.

Respectfully submitted,
For: Rosenberg Klein & Lee

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "David I. Klein".

David I. Klein
Registration No. 33,253

Dated: *26 May 2006*

Rosenberg, Klein & Lee
Suite 101
3458 Ellicott Center Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043
(410)465-6678
Customer No. 04586